



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Zhimin Liu

Art Unit : 2877

Serial No. : 09/705,166

Examiner : Kaveh Cyrus Kianni

Filed : November 1, 2000

Title : WAVELENGTH INTERLEAVER

**BOX AF**

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICIAL ACTION MAILED JANUARY 15, 2003

In response to the official action mailed January 15, 2003, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 9, and 16 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) An optical interleaver comprising:  
a first collimating lens for collimating an input optical signal into collimated beams and a second collimating lens for focusing said collimated parallel beams into an output optical fiber;  
and  
a phase delay difference generating means for generating substantially one phase-delay difference between portions of said collimated parallel beams, wherein the phase delay difference generating means is optically coupled between said first and said second collimating lens for generating a substantially periodic interference pattern when said collimated parallel beams are focused by said second collimating lens.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

March 17, 2003

Date of Deposit

*Melissa Alexander*

Signature

Melissa Alexander

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate